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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# **FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ARREST TUCSON MAN IN CONNECTION WITH IDENTITY FRAUD ACTIVITIES**

PHOENIX – The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announces that on December 3, 2004, WALTER GONZALO HERNANDEZ, DOB 01/24/1985, of Tucson, Arizona, was arrested for violation of federal law related to identity fraud.

The criminal complaint charges HERNANDEZ with violating Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028(a)(2), alleging that HERNANDEZ knowingly sold six fraudulent U.S. government immigration identification documents (Permanent Resident Cards) in the months of November and December, 2004. A search warrant executed simultaneously with HERNANDEZ'S arrest on Friday uncovered evidence that HERNANDEZ was also involved with the actual production of fraudulent identity documents, including immigration documents as well as Social Security cards. Document producing implements and materials were seized from HERNANDEZ' possession, as well as additional fraudulent documents.

A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 1028(a)(2) carries a maximum penalty of fifteen year(s), a \$250,000 fine or both.

A criminal complaint is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation is being conducted jointly by Immigration Customs Enforcement,

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Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration.

The prosecution is being handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney,  
District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: Mag. No. 04-3874M  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2004-193

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